

MAY 27 2008

*Amendment in Application 10/790,085
Response AFR of March 27, 2008*

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

Claims 1-14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A hermetically sealed compressor comprising:
an electric element, and a compression element driven by the electric element, both components being provided in a hermetically sealed container, a CO₂ refrigerant sucked from a refrigerant introduction tube being compressed by the compression element, discharged into the hermetically sealed container, and then discharged outside from a refrigerant discharge tube;
at least one sleeve provided in the hermetically sealed container, to which the refrigerant introduction tube and/or the refrigerant discharge tube are connectable;
a flange formed around an outer surface of the sleeve to engage a coupler for tube connection; and
an airtightness-test pipe, connected to the sleeve and conveying compressed air for an airtightness test of the sealed compressor;
wherein the compressed air is of about 10 MPa.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A hermetically sealed compressor comprising:
an electric element, and a compression element driven by the electric element, both components being provided in a hermetically sealed container, a CO₂ refrigerant sucked from a refrigerant introduction tube being compressed by the compression element, discharged into the hermetically sealed container, and then discharged outside from a refrigerant discharge tube;

*Amendment in Application 10/790,085
Response AFR of March 27, 2008.*

at least one sleeve provided in the hermetically sealed container, to which the refrigerant introduction tube and/or the refrigerant discharge tube are connectable;

a screw groove formed for pipe connection around an outer surface of the sleeve; and

an airtightness-test pipe, connected to the sleeve and conveying compressed air for an airtightness test of the sealed compressor;

wherein the compressed air is of about 10 MPa.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A hermetically sealed compressor comprising:

an electric element, and a compression element driven by the electric element, both components being provided in a hermetically sealed container, a CO₂ refrigerant sucked from a refrigerant introduction tube being compressed by the compression element, discharged into the hermetically sealed container, and then discharged outside from a refrigerant discharge tube;

a plurality of sleeves provided in the hermetically sealed container, to which the refrigerant introduction tube and the refrigerant discharge tube are connectable;

a flange formed around an outer surface of one of adjacent sleeves to engage a coupler for tube connection;

a screw groove formed for pipe connection around an outer surface of the other sleeve;

and

at least one airtightness-test pipe, connected to at least one of the sleeves and conveying compressed air for an airtightness test of the sealed compressor;

wherein the compressed air is of about 10 MPa.

Claims 18-33 (Canceled)

*Amendment in Application 10/790,085
Response AFR of March 27, 2008*

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): An assembly for a hermetically sealed compressor, the assembly comprising:

an electric element, and a compression element driven by the electric element, both components being provided in a hermetically sealed container, a refrigerant sucked from a refrigerant introduction tube being compressed by the compression element, and discharged from a refrigerant discharge tube; and

at least one sleeve attached corresponding to a hole formed on a bent surface of the hermetically sealed container, to which the refrigerant introduction and/or discharge tubes are connected;

wherein a flat surface is formed on an outer surface of the hermetically sealed container around the hole, the sleeve includes a insertion portion inserted into the hole, and an abutting portion positioned around the insertion portion and abutted on the flat surface of the hermetically sealed container, and an annular projection for projection welding on the abutting portion;

whereby the abutting portion of the sleeve and the flat surface of the hermetically sealed container are securable to each other by projection welding using the annular projection.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The assembly for a hermetically sealed compressor according to claim 34, wherein the flat surface is concaved around the hole.

Claims 36-44 (Canceled)

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The hermetically sealed compressor according to claim 15, wherein the sleeve comprises an internal bore and wherein the refrigerant introduction tube

*Amendment in Application 10/790,085
Response AFR of March 27, 2008*

and/or the refrigerant discharge tube is insertable into the bore and hermetically connectable to the sleeve.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The hermetically sealed compressor according to claim 16, wherein the sleeve comprises an internal bore and wherein the refrigerant introduction tube and/or the refrigerant discharge tube is insertable into the bore and hermetically connectable to the sleeve.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The hermetically sealed compressor according to claim 17, wherein the sleeves comprise internal bores and wherein the refrigerant introduction tube and the refrigerant discharge tube are insertable into the bores and hermetically connectable to a respective sleeve.

Claims 48-50 (Canceled)